

Minutes of the Criminal Justice Collaborating Council – Executive Committee

Monday, July 13, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m.

Present: Judge Mac Davis (Chair), Peter Schuler, Jim Dwyer, and Brad Schimel. Sam Benedict arrived at 8:34 a.m. **Absent:** Dan Vrakas

Also Present: Rebecca Luczaj, Dave Krahn, Clara Daniels, Rob Henken, and Vanessa Allen.
Recorded by Mary Pedersen, County Board Office.

Approve Minutes from June 15 & June 29, 2009 Meetings

The minutes of June 15 and June 29 were approved without objection.

Benedict arrived at 8:34 a.m.

Discuss OAR (Operating After Revocation) Legislative Changes & Impact on OAR Program

Changes to OAR legislation on the State level, effective July 1, 2009, have decriminalized OAR penalties not associated with OWI convictions. This will have a significant impact on our OAR Program. Luczaj said after speaking with Vrakas, she and other County staff met with WCS and came up with a tentative plan. Vrakas had suggested we work with the municipal courts and JoAnn Eiring of WCS has agreed to talk with some of the municipal court judges to determine a level of interest in working on a pilot program to make referrals to the County for the OAR Program. Eventually, we will consider having the municipal courts contribute partial costs to the program or take it over completely. Luczaj said if the judges are not in favor of the plan, the program will probably need to be phased out by the end of the year.

Schimel said he was not overly optimistic whereby he referred to delayed cases, reinstatement fees, higher fines, and independence among the judges. Dwyer suggested communications from the chief judge urging participation. Benedict suggested keeping this within WCS and somehow link it to the Self Help Center, especially if we could get pro bono volunteers from the Bar for people who need municipal cases re-opened. This is currently being done in Milwaukee County through the Justice 2000 Program. Benedict said it is likely there will be an increase in the number of alternate jail sentences ordered and this should probably be tracked. Krahn felt we should get the word out to other DA's across the state regarding the impact of these changes.

Review 2010 CJCC Budget Recommendations

Luczaj discussed her report as outlined entitled "2010 Criminal Justice Collaborating Council Program Estimate" which included information on program, modified 2009 and 2010 budgets, expenses, and revenues. Luczaj said they will recommend to Cindy Greco in Purchasing, a one-year extension of the OAR Program until the future of that program has been determined. The other four programs will be put out for bid next year. She advised the program totals coincide with a recent memo reflecting 2% increases for each program. Referring to Luczaj's comments on fee collections/revenues, Dwyer said it is important this be tracked and that we take a look at quarterly goals. He thought the Alcohol Treatment Court fee revenue predictions were optimistic and stressed the importance of not over-projecting revenues.

Review Strategic Planning Recommendations' Committee Assignments

Luczaj distributed copies of "2009 CJCC Strategic Planning – Recommended Action Steps for Consideration by Executive Committee." The committee reviewed the assignments and determined that a subcommittee of the Programs & Alternatives Committee would be formed for item #2. Also, Luczaj said Dr. Pelfrey of UW-Milwaukee, who attended our strategic planning session, had expressed interest in participating in a CJCC committee. He would be a good fit in the area of program evaluation. It was agreed that the issue of identifying funding needs would be handled under the CJCC Executive Committee. Davis said this could be discussed further at a later date.

Review & Discuss CJCC Committee Membership Selection Policy

Davis was concerned that CJCC members are being recruited without CJCC Executive Committee approval. Luczaj distributed copies of the CJCC by laws which states the CJCC Executive Committee coordinates and approves the membership of the standing committees, subcommittees, and Ad Hoc committees. Dwyer suggested that committee chairs bring new members to the attention of the CJCC Executive Committee for approval. Davis agreed and offered to communicate this to the committee chairs. Dwyer said this process would also be a good way to monitor the balance of each committee's membership. Luczaj advised she maintains a list of active members for each of the committees and subcommittees and would forward everyone a copy. Davis noted he would refer to this list for committee chair contact information.

Discuss Future Projects to Assign to Public Policy Forum

Luczaj distributed and reviewed "Examples of Projects to Assign to the Public Policy Forum" as outlined. She said we will formally start working with the Public Policy Forum in October. Henken said the work they have been doing in Milwaukee primarily involves item #4 on the list (research innovative programs throughout the country) but they could probably do everything listed. He explained their process for accepting new initiatives and projects. Davis asked that this item be agendaized for a future meeting to finalize the list. He welcomed additional suggestions from Henken and also asked him to advise of anything on the list that wouldn't work for them.

Recommend Agenda Items for 7/29 CJCC Meeting

Luczaj advised Joanne, our new council member, will be at the July 29 meeting. Budget review, OAR program changes, an Alcohol Work Group report on OWI sentencing options, and formal approval of the strategic plan will be on the agenda for July 29. Davis suggested adding a committee or program report to that agenda. Luczaj suggested inviting Barbara from WCTC for an update on the Adult Basic Education Program. Dwyer suggested a discussion on ideas for forming private/public partnerships (for when the economy shifts) relative to employment, to decrease the jail population, etc. Benedict advised he would not be able to attend that meeting.

Schimb left the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.